

A3

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Powder mixture is supplied into a die under a state  
that a center pin is located lower than the top surface of  
5 the die, after which the center pin is lifted up to a given  
molding position where an annular molding space is defined  
between the center pin and the die. The powder mixture is  
then compressed from upper and lower sides with an upper  
plunger and a lower plunger to form a pellet. The center  
10 pin and the lower plunger are simultaneously lifted up to  
remove the pellet out of the die.